

New York Set To Receive Up to \$7.3 Million in Additional High-Speed Rail Funds from States Rejecting Federal Funds

WASHINGTON – Congresswoman Louise Slaughter (NY-28), Founder and Chairwoman of the Upstate Congressional Caucus, today welcomed a decision by the Department of Transportation to direct up to \$7.3 million in additional funding for high-speed rail to New York. The decision comes as stimulus dollars originally intended for Wisconsin and Ohio were reallocated to New York. Slaughter has been a fierce advocate for New York to receive the additional funds.

“I’ve been advocating for this extra money for New York for months and today’s news that an additional \$7.3 million is coming to our state is superb,” said Slaughter. “I’m delighted that New York is able to take advantage of this additional stimulus money to build high-speed passenger rail stretching across the state.”

The newly elected governors of Wisconsin and Ohio have said publicly that they would reject federal rail funding. That decision left millions of dollars at the Department of Transportation unspoken for. Days after their election, Slaughter called on the Department of Transportation to give a portion of that money to New York.

Shortly following the election, she spoke with U.S. Department of Transportation Deputy Secretary John Porcari and wrote to U.S. Department of Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood with whom she’s worked closely on high-speed rail for years.

At the time she said: **“If other states don’t want their high-speed rail money, New York will take it because we understand that high-speed rail is an essential element to our transportation system and a good rail system is an important element of our national security,”** said Slaughter, New York’s high-speed rail champion. **“I’m asking the Department of Transportation and Secretary Ray LaHood that as much as possible of the funding be allocated to New York.”**

Out of 13 states allocated additional funding, New York ranked 4th, receiving more than twice the money allocated to Maine, Massachusetts, Missouri, Oregon, North Carolina, Iowa and Indiana.

For more on Slaughter's work to bring high-speed rail to New York, click [here](#).